

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A tuyere device for introducing gaseous media under a liquid-metal layer, comprising a nest block made of refractory material, said block being provided with a sleeve incorporated therein and formed by coaxial metal tubes provided with at least one central operating channel and at least one annular operating channel which are arranged on the side thereof intended for introduction into liquid metal, and are separately connected to inlets for supplying gaseous media to liquid metal,

wherein the said coaxial metal tubes along their length consist of two interconnected sections having different diameters, the first section having a smaller diameter and being intended for supplying the gaseous media to the liquid metal. and the second section having larger diameter and being connected to gas supply inlets for separate supplying the gaseous media to the operating channels of the first section. whereas the second section is provided with an additional metal tube and with annular operating channels only, while ~~the internal a central~~ tube of this section is closed on the both ends thereof and filled with a refractory material, the gaps of said annular operating channels in this section of the tuyere being embodied in the form of capillaries for the liquid metal.

Claim 2 (original): The tuyere device of Claim 1, wherein the said annular operating channels, provided in the second section of the coaxial metallic tubes, on the portions of passage into the operating channel's first section are outlined by straight conical surfaces featuring smooth conjunction in the passage ends and the end portion

of the internal tube at least on said passage portion, passes into a conical rod coaxially located in the central operating channel of the first section.

Claim 3 (original): The tuyere device of Claim 1, wherein the said annular channels of the coaxial metal tubes' second section feature spherical surface, providing also smooth passage ,end conjunction on the portions of passing into the first section's operating channels, whereas the end portion of the internal tube at least on this passage portion passes to a conical rod located coaxially in the central operating channel of the first section.

Claim 4 (original): The tuyere device of Claim 1. wherein the said annular operating channels are calibrated in the second section of the sleeve by means of placing between the tubes a gauge spring having initial diameter less than the external diameter of the tube on which such spring is installed.

Claim 5 (original): The tuyere device of Claim 1, wherein the said internal tube of the second section of the coaxial metal tubes is provided with calibrated ribs located across its external diameter, whereas such calibrated ribs are provided also on the portion of passage of the coaxial metal tubes' second section into the first section.

Claim 6 (original): The tuyere device of Claim 1, wherein the sleeve's second section tubes are provided with an annular weld seam.